

*Great black Britons.*

## Herman Ouseley:

- Herman Ouseley was born in Guyana in 1945. He moved to England when he was 11 years old.
- He was appointed as the first principal race relations advisor in the local government and as was the head of the GLC's Ethnic minority unit.
- Later on, he became chief executive of the London borough of Lambeth.
- He also was the former inner London Education authority (he was the first black person to hold this)
- In 1993, he became the executive chairman of the Commission for Racial Equality and was for 7 more years
- He is often called upon to chair independent inquiries into racism
- He is often involved with voluntary organisations which deal with race and ethnics.



## Lord Learie Constantine:

- Learie Constantine was born in **Trinidad in 1902**. He came to Britain in 1923.
- He was into cricket and had turned into a professional in 1928. He joined the Nelson team in the Lancashire league. During the nine years he was on the team they won the league championship seven times.
- In 1943, he had sued a hotel for **refusing to let him stay because he was black**. This made a turning point for the colour bar in Britain.
- He moved to Lancashire with his wife and daughter but suffered **from racism. They waited it out and eventually gained respect from the locals**.
- He had written a book in 1933 called 'Cricket and I' with the help of a person called CLR James.
- In 1942, Constantine was asked by the Ministry of Labour to become a temporary civil servant in its welfare department.
- In 1943, he had visited another hotel "Imperial Hotel" and was told before **he got there that there was no issue with the colour of his skin**. When he arrived it was a different story. He had brought action to this situation but little was done.



## Mary Prince:

- Mary prince was born in Bermuda in 1788. She was a daughter of two slaves; Charles Myners owned her and her parents. When he died they were sold to Captain Williams.
- When she was 12 she was sent out to a plantation five miles away she was later on sold to another family.
- She worked as a domestic slave in the fields and she was constantly flogged by her mistress during this period.
- She was sold to another master and in 1806 she began to work on the salt pans of Turk island. She worked from 4am-9pm and only got to eat some Indian corn.
- In 1818 she was sold to a person called John Wood, her job was to look after the child and clean/tidy up around the house e.g. she was made to go down to the pond and wash the clothes.
- Mary Prince began attending meetings held at the Moravian Church, she was taught how to read and learnt very quickly.
- John Wood took her to London with his family and she worked as his servant in 1828. She had managed to run away when they arrived in London. She then went on to work for Thomas Pringle.
- In 1831 she published her first book called "the history of Mary Prince, a west Indian slave"

